



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/586,501	09/14/2007	Martin Hendrix	01-2118	4479
28519	7590	04/15/2010	EXAMINER	
MICHAEL P. MORRIS			RAO, DEEPAK R	
BOEHRINGER INGELHEIM USA CORPORATION				
900 RIDGEBURY RD			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
P O BOX 368			1624	
RIDGEFIELD, CT 06877-0368				
NOTIFICATION DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
04/15/2010		ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

USPTO.e-Office.rdg@boehringer-ingelheim.com

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/586,501	HENDRIX ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Deepak Rao	1624	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 September 2007.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-5, 7, 11 and 12 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-5, 7, 11 and 12 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 20060714, 20090424 & 20090807.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-5, 7 and 11-12 are pending in this application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

1. Claims 1-5, 7 and 11-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for a compound of formula (I) or salt thereof, does not reasonably provide enablement for a solvate and/or solvates of the salts of a compound of formula (I). The specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention commensurate in scope with these claims.

In evaluating the enablement question, several factors are to be considered. Note *In re Wands*, 8 USPQ2d 1400 and *Ex parte Forman*, 230 USPQ 546. The factors include: 1) The nature of the invention, 2) the state of the prior art, 3) the predictability or lack thereof in the art, 4) the amount of direction or guidance present, 5) the presence or absence of working examples, 6) the breadth of the claims, and 7) the quantity of experimentation needed. The determination that “undue experimentation” would have been needed to make and use the claimed invention is not a single, simple factual determination. Rather, it is a conclusion reached by weighing all the above noted factual considerations.

Factual Basis:

1. Specification has no working example of **solvate** of compound of formula (I) or a **solvate of the salt** thereof; and some of the exemplified compounds within the claimed genus were in contact with solvent. Yet they have not formed solvate as evident from spectral data provided for these compounds.
2. Searching the pertinent art in the related pyrimidine area did not result in support for such solvates of instant pyrimidine compounds. Searching the more general area of solvates resulted in pertinent reference West applied below. West clearly shows lack of predictability of the art in the solvate area.

Based on these two facts, a scope of enablement rejection follows using relevant Wands factors. Hence, the burden of establishing the *prime facie* case is met with.

Scope of enablement rejection:

In evaluating the enablement question, several factors are to be considered. Note *In re Wands*, 8 USPQ2d 1400 and *Ex parte Forman*, 230 USPQ 546. The factors include: 1) The nature of the invention, 2) the state of the prior art, 3) the predictability or lack thereof in the art, 4) the amount of direction or guidance present, 5) the presence or absence of working examples, 6) the breadth of the claims, and 7) the quantity of experimentation needed.

1. The nature of the invention and the state of the prior art:

The invention is drawn to compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof. Specification is not adequately enabled as to how to make solvate of compounds of formula (I). Specification has no example of solvate of the instant compounds and there is no enabling disclosure of such solvates.

The compound of formula (I) embrace substituted pyrimidine compounds substituted

with variable groups A, R¹, R², etc. Careful calculation of the number of compounds embraced in the instant formula (I) shows a large number of compounds. The term “heterocyclyl”; “heteroaryl”; etc. embraces undefined number of variable groups and thus, the genus embraced by the claims is excessively large and there is no teaching of any solvate of this large genus.

Search in the pertinent art, including water as solvent resulted in a pertinent reference, which is indicative of unpredictability of solvate formation in general. The state of the art is that is not predictable whether solvates will form or what their composition will be. In the language of the physical chemist, a solvate of organic molecule is an interstitial solid solution. This phrase is defined in the second paragraph on page 358 of West (Solid State Chemistry). The solvent molecule is a species introduced into the crystal and no part of the organic host molecule is left out or replaced. In the first paragraph on page 365, West (Solid State Chemistry) says, “it is not usually possible to predict whether solid solutions will form, or if they do form what is the compositional extent”. Thus, in the absence of experimentation one cannot predict if a particular solvent will solvate any particular crystal. One cannot predict the stoichiometry of the formed solvate, i.e. if one, two, or a half a molecule of solvent added per molecule of host. Compared with polymorphs, there is an additional degree of freedom to solvates, which means a different solvent or even the moisture of the air that might change the stable region of the solvate. In the instant case of solvate a similar reasoning therefore applies. Water is a solvent and hence it is held that a pertinent detail of West, which relates to solvates, is also applicable to water.

In addition, an additional search resulted in Vippagunta et al., Advanced Drug Delivery Reviews 48: 3-26, 2001, which clearly states that formation of solvates is unpredictable. See entire document especially page 18, right column section 3.4. Note Vippagunta et al., states

“Each solid compound responds uniquely to the possible formation of solvates or hydrates and hence generalizations cannot be made for series of related compounds”.

Joachim Ulrich (Kirk-Othmer Encyclopedia of Chemical Technology) provides that “Pseudopolymorphs are solvates or in the case of water as solvent, hydrates, which means crystals that incorporate solvent molecules into the crystal lattice. Pseudopolymorphs exhibit different crystal forms and/or different densities, solubilities, dissolution rates, colors, hardnesses, etc. Compared with polymorphs, there is an additional degree of freedom (than temperature and pressure), which means a different solvent or even the moisture of the air that might change the stable region of the pseudopolymorph”.

2. The predictability or lack thereof in the art:

Hence the solvate as applied to the above-mentioned compounds claimed by the applicant are not art-recognized compounds and hence there should be adequate enabling disclosure in the specification with working example(s).

3. The amount of direction or guidance present:

Examples illustrated in the experimental section are limited to making the compounds not related to solvates. There is no example of solvate of instant compound. Many of the exemplified compounds were shown in the specification to have come in contact with water and/or other solvent but there is showing that these compounds formed the corresponding hydrates or solvates. Hence it is clear that merely bringing the compound and water or solvent together does not result in solvate and additional direction or guidance is needed to make them - specification has no such direction or guidance.

4. The presence or absence of working examples:

Determining if any particular substrate would form a solvate or hydrate would require synthesis of the substrate and subjecting it to recrystallization with a variety of solvents, temperatures and other parameters. The experimentation is potentially open-ended. The specification does not provide any working example of a solvate of the compound of formula (I).

The claims are drawn to solvate, yet the numerous examples presented all failed to produce a solvate or even solvate. These cannot be simply willed into existence. As was stated in *Morton International Inc. v. Cardinal Chemical Co.*, 28 USPQ2d 1190 “[T]he specification purports to teach, with over fifty examples, the preparation of the claimed compounds with the required connectivity. However ... there, is no evidence that such compounds exist... the examples of the patent do not produce the postulated compounds... there is ... no evidence that such compounds even exist.” The same circumstance appears to be true here. There is no evidence that solvates of these compounds actually exist; if they did, they would have formed. Hence, there should be showing supporting that solvates of these compounds exists and therefore can be made.

5. The breadth of the claims & the quantity of experimentation needed:

Specification provides no support, as noted above, for compounds generically embraced by the claims would lead to desired solvate of the compound of formula (I) or solvate of a salt of a compound of formula (I). As noted above, the genus embraces a large number of compounds and hence the claims are extremely broad. The quantity of experimentation needed would be an undue burden on skilled art in the chemical art since there is inadequate guidance given to the skilled artisan for the many reasons stated above. Even with the undue burden of experimentation, there is no guarantee that one would get the product of desired solvate of

compound of formula (I) embraced in the instant claims in view of the pertinent reference teachings.

2. Claims 11-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for the treatment of disorders of learning and memory, does not reasonably provide enablement for a method of treatment of disorders of perception and concentration. The specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to use the invention commensurate in scope with these claims.

In evaluating the enablement question, several factors are to be considered. Note *In re Wands*, 8 USPQ2d 1400 and *Ex parte Forman*, 230 USPQ 546. The factors include: 1) The nature of the invention, 2) the state of the prior art, 3) the predictability or lack thereof in the art, 4) the amount of direction or guidance present, 5) the presence or absence of working examples, 6) the breadth of the claims, and 7) the quantity of experimentation needed. The determination that “undue experimentation” would have been needed to make and use the claimed invention is not a single, simple factual determination. Rather, it is a conclusion reached by weighing all the above noted factual considerations.

The scope of the claims is not adequately enabled solely based on the activity related to PDE9A inhibition activity provided in the specification. Test procedures and assays are provided in the specification in pages 14-20, however, there is nothing in the disclosure regarding how this test procedures correlates to improving or treating impairments of perception and concentration recited in the instant claims. The disorders encompassed by the instant claims include disorders of perception and concentration, which have been proven to be extremely

difficult to treat. There is no reasonable basis for assuming that the myriad of compounds embraced by the claims will all share the same physiological properties since they are so structurally dissimilar as to be chemically non-equivalent and there is no basis in the prior art for assuming the same. Note *In re Surrey*, 151 USPQ 724 regarding sufficiency of disclosure for a Markush group. The state of the art is not indicative of the unpredictability related to this type of PDE isoforms, see Lugnier (Pharmacology & Therapeutics 2006): “Although PDE1 to PDE6 were the first well-characterized isoforms because of their predominance in various tissues and cells, their contribution to tissue function and their regulation in pathophysiology remain open research fields. This concerns particularly the newly discovered families, PDE7 to PDE11, for which roles are not yet established” (see the abstract).

Thus, factors such as “sufficient working examples”, “the level of skill in the art” and “predictability”, etc. have been demonstrated to be sufficiently lacking in the use of the invention. In view of the breadth of the claim, the chemical nature of the invention, the unpredictability of ligand-receptor interactions in general, and the lack of working examples regarding the activity of the claimed compounds, one having ordinary skill in the art would have to undergo an undue amount of experimentation to use the invention commensurate in scope with the claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

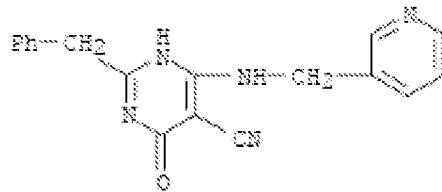
The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-5 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bagli, EP 130735. The instant claims read on reference disclosed compounds that are useful as pharmaceutical agents, see the structural formula (I) in page 3 wherein R¹ is phenyl(lower)alkyl; R² is oxo; R³ is cyano; etc. and the corresponding species of the examples. For example, see the compound disclosed in Example 9, see page 23 (structure depicted below for convenience):

and Found: C, 62.31% H, 4.90% N, 25.98%; and 1,4-dihydro-4-oxo-2-(phenylmethyl)-6-[(3-pyridinylmethyl)amino]-5-pyrimidinecarbonitrile: mp > 260 °C



Receipt is acknowledged of the Information Disclosure Statements filed on July 14, 2006; April 24, 2009 and August 7, 2009 and copies are enclosed herewith.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Deepak Rao whose telephone number is (571) 272-0672. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00am to 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James O. Wilson, can be reached at (571) 272-0661. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-1600.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

**/Deepak Rao/
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1624**

April 14, 2010